

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

1997 Legislative Session

Bill No. _____ CB-79-1997

Chapter No.

Proposed and Presented by _____ Council Member Estep

Introduced by

Co-Sponsors

Date of Introduction

EMERGENCY BILL

AN EMERGENCY ACT concerning

Fire Safety

For the purpose of requiring that fire and rescue equipment which is available for service respond to central dispatch orders and providing for fines for impeding such responses.

BY adding:

SUBTITLE 11. FIRE SAFETY.

Section 11-325,

The Prince George's County Code

(1995 Edition, 1996 Supplement).

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, that Section 11-325 of the Prince George's County Code be and the same is hereby added:

SUBTITLE 11. FIRE SAFETY.

DIVISION 6. VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES.

Sec. 11-325. Emergency Response.

(a) The 911 Center Fire and Rescue dispatch commander, or such other person as be designated in writing by the Fire Chief, shall be responsible for ascertaining the availability of equipment and crews available for dispatch at all times in each of the first and second response areas of the County and for ordering individual units to respond to requests for emergency service received at the 911 Center.

(b) Whenever a dispatch order for emergency fire or rescue service is received, the senior officer in command at each fire or rescue station shall immediately respond to the request for service with equipment and personnel identified and designated as available for service. In the event that a dispatch order to respond reduces the capability or availability of any other equipment or personnel, the senior officer in command shall revise the status of such other equipment or personnel as soon as possible.

(c) At least once every eight hours, the senior officer in command at each fire and rescue station shall report the current status and availability of equipment and personnel assigned to the station to the 911 Center Fire and Rescue dispatch commander.

(d) Whenever the status or availability of equipment or crews changes, the senior officer in command at each station shall report such change to the 911 Center Fire and Rescue dispatch commander.

(e) The Fire Chief shall establish uniform written staffing standards for fire and rescue stations and equipment required to be present and available for response to dispatch orders for use in ascertaining the status of equipment and crews.

(f) The closest available Emergency Medical Service Unit to an emergency call for emergency medical service shall be dispatched each time such a call is received at the 911 Center. A person who deliberately impedes the response of the closest available Emergency Medical Service Unit for other than a valid operational reason shall be subject to conviction and fine pursuant to Section 11-114.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that in accordance with the provisions of Section 317 of the Charter, the County Council hereby declares that a public emergency exists affecting the public health, safety, and welfare; said emergency being the need to insure that fire and rescue equipment and crews that are available of dispatch respond to requests for emergency service when dispatched.

SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect on the date it becomes law.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 1997, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the full County Council.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY:
Dorothy F. Bailey
Chair

ATTEST:

Joyce T. Sweeney
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: _____ BY:
Wayne K. Curry
County Executive

KEY:
Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law.